

Bolshevism World Menace, Says Robins

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when summing up his testimony. "There is no menace in it, so much greater, so much deeper than the people with the 7 per cent brains have seen and told, so much worse than any mere pro-Germanism, that I feel we should use every power of civilization to understand and combat it."

Government Based on Class

"There has been an attempt made to establish a government based on class hatred. It is economically impossible and morally wrong. The leaders have had the most extraordinary laboratory for the carrying on of this last experiment, and it has failed."

"Lenine said to me that it probably would fail in Russia, but he declared they would keep the flame burning there until the world blazed up. It will come first in Bulgaria and she will still fight. It will spread. And when it comes to Soviet rule in Berlin remember that it was the German who told you in the Kremlin who started the world conflagration. That was in January, more than a year ago."

"He challenged the world. 'You think America is immune,' he told me. 'But your government lacks integrity. Your representatives are really elected in name only. You are in process to represent your real interests instead of levers. We will put in the real producers, but not parasites, and we are going to challenge the world with a producer's republic. We may go over everything, but no better we have destroyed all such governments.'

Class Terror Is Menace

"That is the real menace. It is not the criminals. His degree will destroy production and create class terror. It is a challenge to the Christian civilization of the world. I believe in political democracy and in the Christian conscience, and those are challenged as they have never before been. And I believe America is the only nation that can meet the issue and save them. No European nation has the cohesion, the faith, to act to-day."

"But mere force is a failure against ideas, though it will use force unhesitatingly against violators. You cannot put an idea with bayonets. You cannot put an idea with bayonets."

"Lenine changed the date of the congress, giving more time for an answer, but none came, and the treaty was ratified."

Credit Propaganda Harmful

"The Korniloff counter revolution, which had been aided by the rearmers, and was foreshadowed by its supporters, did not understand the 93 per cent of the people. The propaganda sent by the Credit committee did more harm than good."

There were two chief reasons, he said, for the failure of the American influence. One was the use by German propagandists of the attacks which had been made on Elihu Root. Mr. Robins took pains to recall that the German menace was nearest, and there should be no discussion of this question at the war's end. This is the first statement I have made."

"There is a good deal of Bolshevik propaganda in America," said Senator Overman. "What would be your plan to stop it?"

"This committee will make a report setting forth just what Bolshevik propaganda is, and just what the vast majority of American men will do to repudiate it utterly. If this is followed by intelligent legislation to correct what is wrong in our civilization, it would wipe out the breeding spots of unrest. The I. W. W., for instance, and such things, always spring from some economic wrong. Take away the three fears of the workers, the fear of unemployment, of disaster, and of old age and premature death, then you will have for him a land that is worth living in and that he will know and feel is worth fighting for."

Would Use Publicity Method

"Would you work chiefly with laws of repression or of publicity?" the Senator asked.

"With publicity mostly. Laws against the red flag wouldn't work."

"Would you not forbid the use of the red flag when it is a symbol of a democratic government?"

"I would not do it at this stage. But every man who is advancing over-thrown the government I would arrest, indict, try and convict."

U. S. Must Beat German Entry

Mr. Robins' plan for Russia seems for economic cooperation to forestall the German economic invasion of the country which he declared inevitable if America kept out. "Either Germany will dominate or we will," he said.

"I agree with the President that the best cure for Bolshevikism is food," he declared. "I believe that if we send men and intelligent commissions to help in the reorganization of Russia's economic structure normal life would begin and that comfort and personal aspiration would destroy the formula of Bolshevism."

Bolshevik Want U. S. Cooperation

Colonel Robins told of the constant offers of cooperation with American or Allied forces which were made by the Bolsheviks. He did not use the word blunders, but he told of many cases where subsequent developments have justified his efforts to have such offers accepted.

"One of these was an offer by the Russian Commissars to turn over to the American railway system full control of the trans-Siberian railroad and to make any man they might name a commissioner in charge. The conditions were that the resources should be divided, half to be used in getting food from Siberia into Russia and the other half to get the artillery and supplies back from the Russian front, which Trotsky assured him might be seized at any time by the Germans."

"I urged this," he said. "Others opposed it, but I got a demonstration that whether we went to war with the Soviets. We would have had something definite to go on and would have got out of the fog of conjecture."

Wanted Economic Alliance

"You mean to say you wanted an alliance with the Bolsheviks?" he asked.

"Economic cooperation. There was no question about it. There were many big guns on the front, but there by the British, with lots of ammunition. We could have taken them anywhere we wanted to, if the plan had worked. It seemed to me worth while trying."

One fiasco came while the ratification of the Brest-Litovsk treaty was awaiting action by the Russian Soviet.

"Trotzky told me that Lenin was so in fear of the Brest treaty that if he could get the promise of American support to fight with Germany he would have the Soviet refuse ratification," said Colonel Robins. "I was surprised and suspicious. This was not the attitude I believed Lenin was taking. He had argued that prophecies in his paper were right. So I told him I wanted that prophecy to stand. He said: 'Do you want my life?' If the Germans ever learn there is such a document they will come right in."

"I said: 'Don't sign it, but draw it up so I will have a definite thing to go on.'

"I went back a little later and he had the document, and we went to see

Transports Due To-day

Mongolia, from St. Nazaire Feb. 23, with 4,000 officers and men. These include the 33rd, 335th and 336th Machine Gun battalions; 316th Trench Mortar Battery; 316th French Artillery battery; Meteorological Detachment; 1st Signal Corps; 1st Aero Squadron; 482d Engineer Pontoon train; 482d Aerial Construction Squadron; 401st Pontoon Park; 10th Anti-Aircraft Sector; Special St. Nazaire Casual Company, No. 177; and St. Nazaire Convalescent Detachments 56, 57, 58, 59, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 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